SUBJECT NAACP

FILE NUMBER 61-3176

SECTION NUMBER 21

SERIALS 555 - 566

AKRON OHIO, JUNE 13th 1950

[redacted] (b)(7)(C)

43025 [redacted]

FEDERAL

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON D C

GENTLEMEN: I AM WRITING YOU IN RE TO THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR T[illegible] ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE. IN MY WORK AS [redacted] (b)(7)(C) [redacted] I COME IN CONTACT WITH MANY OF THE COLORED PEOPLE . I AM A WHITE WOMAN, AND AM FRIENDLY AND SYMPATHETIC AND UNDERSTANDING WITH AND TOWARD ALL PEOPLES. I WAS ASKED TO JOIN THIS ORGANIZATION ANDGAVE THEM A DONATION AND RECIEVED A CARD OF MEMBERSHIP FROMNEW YORK.

I AM AGAINST ANY COMMUNISTIC ACTIVITIES OF ANY SORT, AND WANT NO PART OF ANY THING THAT IS NOT ONE HUNDRED PER CENT AMERICAN.

VERY TRULY YOURS,

[redacted]

(b)(7)(C)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/2/84 BY SP-8BTJ/mc

INDEXED - 25
RECORDED - 25

161-3176-5555

JUN 2- 1950

June 21, 1950

[redacted] (b)(7)(c)

G.I.R.-1

RECORDED - [redacted] Akron, Ohio
61-3171-555

Dear [redacted] (b)(7)(c)

Your letter dated June 13, 1950, has been received and while I would like to be of assistance, you are advised that it has been a long-standing policy of the FBI that its files are confidential and available for official use only.

I regret that I cannot aid you regarding the association mentioned in your communication and suggest that no inference be drawn that we do or do not have information in our files due to my inability to be of assistance.

Enclosed is some material which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted]
John Edgar Hoover
Director

3/12/92

Enclosure

How to Fight Communism
Tool of Chaos
Air Speech before Grand Lodge 5-2-50
100 Things about Communism in USA

[redacted] (b)(7)(c)

JUN 22 1950
COMM - FBI

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FBI/DOJ

[redacted]

[redacted] SF-8BTJ/mlh

Harrington W. C.
21 June, 1950

F. B. I., Washington D. C.

Gentlemen:

The writer wants to know if the Advancement of the "National Association of Colored People" is a Communist front organization. I have very close contacts among local negroes through religious and educational activities. On actual investigations, could learn nothing; am a Navy Vet. have a Master's Degree [redacted] (b)(7)(C)

Or maybe this letter can be completely disregarded.

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

RECORDED - 105 61-3176-557

Respectfully,

[redacted]
(b)(7)(C)

4-750 (2-7-79)

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DATE 3/12/82 BY SP-8BTJ/mc

June 27, 1950

GM

RECORDED - 10[redacted] Farmington, West Virginia (b)(7)(c)

61-2174-55 Dear [redacted] (b)(7)(c)

INDEXED - 105

Your letter of June 21, 1950, has been received and the thoughts which prompted it are indeed appreciated.

EX - 78

Since information contained in the files of this Bureau is restricted and for official use only I will not be able to be of assistance to you in this matter. No inference should be drawn, of course, that our files do or do not contain information bearing upon the organization in which you are interested.

I am enclosing, however, some material about those organizations which have been designated by the Attorney General to be within the purview of Executive Order Number 9835.

Please do not hesitate to correspond with Mr. J. E. Thornton, Special Agent in Charge of our Pittsburgh Office or with me if this Bureau can be of any assistance, or if you are in the possession of any information in which you feel this Bureau would be interested.

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DATE 3/12/92 BY SP8CTJ/ak

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure
Subversive Lists

cc SAC Pittsburgh, with copy of incoming.

(b)(7)(c)
[redacted]

JUL 13 1950

JUN 23 1950
COMM-FBI

COPY

[redacted]

Farmington W. Va.
21 June 1950

F. B. I. Washington D. C.
To whom it may concern:

(b)(7)(c)

The writer wants to know if the "National Association For Advancement of Colored People" is a Communist front organization? I have very close contacts among local negroes through religious and educational work which I do. Am active in labor organizations, could I serve you in any way; am a Navy Vet. have a Master's Degree. [redacted]

Or maybe this letter is out of order completely.

Respectfully,

[redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 3/10/11 BY [illegible]

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT SEATTLE

SE FILE NO. 100-

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR	REPORT MADE BY
SEATTLE	7/6/50	5/21,26;5/18,19; 6/1,2,21-23,26/50	[redacted] (c)

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF THE WASHINGTON STATE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: The 12th District Communist Party has been attempting infiltration of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People since 1943.

(b)(2)
(b)(7)(D)

[redacted] Testimony before Washington State Un-American Activities Committee 1948 corroborates national infiltration policy.

[redacted] Communist attempts to gain control of Washington State NAACP convention at Tacoma, Washington, on April 29, 1950, negative. Organizational structure, officers, subversive ramifications and Communist Party attempts to infiltrate set out.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

- C 7, 5)

Class. & Ext. By SP-8BTJ/mhw
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
Date of Review 3/12/82
3/12/82

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: J B Tilley SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

61-3176-558

SE 40

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3 - Seattle

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8 AUG 10 1950

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SE 100-8405

TABLE OF CONTENTS

		Page
I.	Organizational Structure of the NAACP in the State of Washington	3
	A. Branches	3
	B. Membership	3
II.	Officers	3
	A. State Officers	3
	B. Bremerton, Washington	4
	C. Everett, Washington	4
	D. Seattle, Washington	4
	E. Spokane, Washington	5
	F. Tacoma, Washington	5
	G. Tri-City (Pasco, Richland and Kennewick), Washington	5
	H. Vancouver, Washington	5
	I. Yakima, Washington	5
III.	Subversive Ramifications	
	A. Connections of Officers with the Communist Party	6
	B. Communists in the NAACP	9
	C. Delegates to NAACP National Convention, Boston, Massachusetts, June 20-25, 1950	9
IV.	Communist Party Attempts to Infiltrate NAACP	9
V.	Communist Party Attempts to Dominate NAACP Washington State Convention at Tacoma, Washington, April 29, 1950, Negative	21

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SE 100-[redacted]05

DETAILS: [redacted]

I. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE NAACP IN THE STATE OF WASHINGTON [redacted]

A. Branches

On June 20, 1950, it was ascertained by a suitable pretext telephone call to [redacted] that there are eight branches in the State of Washington of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, i.e. Bremerton, Everett, Seattle, Spokane, Tacoma, Tri-City (Pasco, Richland and Kennewick), Vancouver and Yakima. Mrs. BOOTH stated that the Vancouver branch recently had been enlarged and that at the present time it includes the membership from Portland, Oregon. (b)(7)(c)

B. Membership

On June 20, 1950, [redacted] under pretext advised that there are approximately 2555 members of the NAACP in the State of Washington and that the membership was distributed as follows: (b)(7)(c)

Bremerton	45
Everett	40
Seattle	870
Spokane	400
Tacoma	600
Tri-City	300
Vancouver	350
Yakima	50
Total	2555

II. OFFICERS

A. State Officers

[redacted] made available the names of the following NAACP officers: (b)(7)(c)

President — MARK A. SMITH

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1st Vice President	THELMA DEWITTY
2nd Vice President	IRENE TILLER
Secretary	LOTTIE ELLIS
Assistant Secretary	Mrs. A. FLETCHER BOOTH
Treasurer	FRANK McINTOSH

B. Bremerton, Washington

President	ROBERT SINGLETON
Vice President	JAMES WALKER
2nd Vice President	ISAIAH JONES
Secretary	LILLIAN WALKER
Assistant Secretary	JUNE NORDQUIST
Treasurer	FRANK BIGGANS
Advisory Board	LAWRENCE HARRIS
	Reverend A. MODISETT
	Reverend FENTRESS
	Reverend PRIERSON
	LOXIE EGANS
Membership Committee	
Chairman	ALBERT GOLVIN
Committeemen	M. O. SOLIE
	H. H. SHARP
	JAMES McCLURE
	ROOSEVELT JACKSON
	WARREN C. WILSON
	PHILLIP WASHINGTON

C. Everett, Washington

According to [redacted] the Everett branch has just recently (b)(7)(c) been organized and to date no officers have been elected.

D. Seattle, Washington

The February 3, 1950, issue of the People's World, a newspaper published in San Francisco, California, which has been reliably reported to be controlled and dominated by known members of the Communist Party, contained an article captioned "Seattle NAACP Plans Public Housing Meeting" which reflects the following officers for the Seattle branch:

President	Reverend F. BENJAMIN DAVIS, pastor, Mt. Zion Church, 1634 19th Avenue

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SE 100-[redacted]

Vice President	CHARLES M. STOKES
Recording Secretary	Mrs. IDA BELL LEWIS
Corresponding Secretary	Mrs. MARDINE PURNELL
Treasurer	Mrs. E. JAMES SMITH
Membership director	Mrs. THELMA DEWITTY
Promotions and Publicity	Mrs. MELVIN SQUIRES
Executive Board	GIL BAKER
	Mrs. A. FLETCHER BOOTH
	Mrs. MADELINE BRAKE
	JOHN COPELAND
	MARITA JOHNSON
	Dr. ROBERT M. JOYER
	Mrs. FRED W. SHORTER
	JESSIE WARREN
	LETCHER L. YARBOUGH

On June 20, 1950, [redacted] (under pretext) corroborated the election of the aforementioned Seattle officers. (b)(7)(C)

E. Spokane, Washington

President — JAMES CHASE

F. Tacoma, Washington

President — Mrs. W. P. STAFFORD

On May 15, 1950 [redacted] (b)(2), (b)(7)(D) of unknown reliability advised that JAMES BLACK is actually the leader of the NAACP in Tacoma.

G. Tri-City (Pasco, Richland and Kennewick), Washington

The names of the officers of this branch were unknown to [redacted]

H. Vancouver, Washington

President — MARK SMITH (b)(7)(C)

I. Yakima, Washington

According to [redacted] the names of the officers of this branch are not presently available. (b)(7)(C)

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III. SUBVERSIVE RAMIFICATIONS

A. Connections of Officers with the Communist Party

Reverend F. Benjamin Davis

(b)(2)
(b)(7)(D)

[redacted]

(b)(1)
(b)(2)
(b)(7)(D)

[redacted]

The March 18, 1946, issue of the New World contained an article which reflected that DAVIS had been elected vice chairman of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee. It will be noted that the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee has been cited as within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

(b)(2)
(b)(7)(D)
(b)(7)(C)

[redacted]

Mrs. FRED W. SHORTER

(b)(2)
(b)(7)(D)

[redacted]

CONFIDENTIAL

Reverend FRED SHORTER

(b)(2), (b)(7)(C) [redacted] advised that Reverend SHORTER, although he is not a member of the NAACP, is closely affiliated with it.

(b)(1) [redacted]

(b)(2), (b)(7)(C) [redacted]

LETCHER L. YARBOUGH

(b)(2), (b)(7)(C), (b)(7)(E) [redacted] The April 4, 1946, issue of the New World contained an article which reflected that LETCHER YARBOUGH was a delegate who had been elected from the State of Washington to attend the "National Win the Peace Conference" which was to be held at Washington, D. C., April 5-7, 1946.

[redacted]

It will be noted that the National Negro Congress and the National Win the Peace Conference have been cited as within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

JOHN BECK

(b)(2), (b)(7)(D) [redacted]

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IDA BELLE LEWIS

[redacted]

MARDINE BURNELL

[redacted]

(b)(2)
(b)(7)(D)

THELMA DEWITTY

[redacted]

JAMES CHASE

[redacted]

(b)(1)

The March 14, 1949, issue of the Spokane Chronicle reflected that JAMES CHASE, among others, was a member of the Metaline Falls miners defense committee. According to T-2 and Confidential Informant T-15 of known reliability this committee was in fact a Communist committee.

IRENE MILLER

The December 27, 1941, issue of the Washington New Dealer reflects that IRENE MILLER, among others, was a member of the Washington Commonwealth Federation. It will be noted that the Washington Commonwealth Federation has been reliably reported to have been dominated by the Communist Party in the second report of the Un-American Activities Committee in the State of Washington, 1948.

(b)(2)
(b)(7)(D)

[redacted]

[redacted]

ROOSEVELT/JACKSON

(b)(2)

(b)(7)(D)

[redacted]

B. Communists in the NAACP

[redacted]

C. Delegates to NAACP National Convention, Boston, Massachusetts, June 20-25, 1950

On June 20, 1950, it was ascertained via suitable pretext to [redacted] that Reverend F. BENJAMIN DAVIS and Mrs. THELMA DEWITTY, state vice president of the NAACP, were going to attend the national convention at Boston, Massachusetts, from June 20 through 25, 1950.

IV. COMMUNIST PARTY ATTEMPTS TO INFILTRATE NAACP

[redacted]

4-750 (2-7-79)

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[redacted]

(b)(4)
(b)(7)(C)

The first report of the Un-American Activities Committee in the State of Washington, 1948, reflects testimony by MANNING JOHNSON, former member of the Communist Party National Committee and National Negro Congress. JOHNSON stated that the national policy is for Communist Party members in the National Negro Congress to infiltrate the NAACP. He stated that the "objective of the Communists in infiltration of the NAACP is to gain control of the various locals of the organization and to eventually elect delegates to national conclaves, to determine to a large extent the policy of that organization and to eventually control it." JOHNSON further stated that "since the war the NAACP has grown into a mass organization. It enjoys an unparalleled position of prestige among the Negro people. Not only the Negro people but among the white people of this great country of ours. It is then a mass organization embracing thousands of people. Any organization that embraces thousands is an organization that vitally concerns the Communists. They want to get where the masses of people are because they want to disseminate their revolutionary policy and program. They want to ensnare them. They want to enmesh them in the web of Communist political policy."

(b)(1) [redacted]

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4-750 (2-7-79)

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[redacted]

(b)(2)
(b)(7)(C)

[redacted]

(b)(1)

[redacted]

(b)(2)
(b)(7)(C)

[redacted]

V. COMMUNIST PARTY ATTEMPTS TO DOMINATE NAACP WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION AT TACOMA, WASHINGTON, APRIL 29, 1950, NEGATIVE

(b)(2)
(b)(7)(C)

[redacted]

(b)(2)
(b)(7)(C)

On May 15, 1950, [redacted] advised that at the state-wide convention held at Tacoma, Washington, the NAACP officials were cognizant of the plans of the Communist Party to gain control of the offices and organization of the NAACP. This informant stated that the Communists saw they were heavily outnumbered and made no attempt to disrupt or take over the leadership.

CLOSED

CONFIDENTIAL

4-750 (2-7-79)

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(b)(7)(C)

TO

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J. EDGAR HOOVER
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGAT.
WASHINGTON D. C.

FORWARDING POINTS NUMBER 12 CANCELLED

FORWARDING POINTS NUMBER 9 DIRECTLY INVOLVED.

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

117
EX-30

APPEAL

ASSISTANCE FROM ALL POINTS CONTACTED IN OBTAINING HEREIN DESIRED. SET FORTH

INDEXED - 117 61 - 3176 - 59

58 JUL 21 1950

EX-30

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE
ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
20 WEST 40TH STREET, NEW YORK 18, N Y

Please address reply to
NAACP
1911 Minnesota Avenue, N.W.
Washington 1, D. C.
Telephone Number 5-7488

Walter White
Director

Jesse O. Dedmon, Jr.
Secretary, Veterans Affairs

Lester B. Granger
Administrative Assistant

Clarence M. Mitchell, Jr.
Labor Secretary

11 August 1947

Dear

This office is in receipt of your letter and file.

Mr. Dedmon, Secretary, Veterans Affairs is now on vacation and will not return until the Month of September. I am sure he will do whatever he can in helping you receive your unemployment compensation.

Sincerely yours,

Alberta M Howard
Secretary to Mr. Dedmon

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Palmer Weber
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Philadelphia — Theodore Spaulding
Richmond, Va. — Dr. J. M. Tinsley
Topeka, Kans. — Hon. Arthur Capper
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Loren Miller
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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
20 WEST 40TH STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.
LONGACRE 3-8900
Official Organ: The Crisis

Please direct reply to
WASHINGTON BUREAU, NAACP
1100 Massachusetts Avenue, N. W.
Washington 1, D. C.
Telephone: National 5794

Walter White, Director
Jesse O. Dedmon, Jr., Secretary, Veterans Affairs
Leslie S. Perry, Administrative Assistant
Clarence M. Mitchell, Jr., Labor Secretary

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Dr. Louis T. Wright
Dorothy Height
Lottie P. Watkins
Rufus W. Smith
H. W. Griffin
Thomas Jones, Executive Secretary
Lee A. Brown, Assistant Executive Secretary
Bobby Hunter, Youth Secretary
Jesse O. Dedmon, Jr., Secretary, Veterans Affairs
Oliver W. Harrington, Director of Public Relations
Clarence M. Mitchell, Jr., Labor Secretary

18 September 1947

Dear

This acknowledges receipt of your communication and the allied papers relative to your refusal to obtain unemployment compensation benefits. From your correspondence, it appears that you are planning to sue somebody for this benefit. Please notify me as to what direct action you have taken and the reply you have received.

Sincerely yours,

Jesse O. Dedmon, Jr.

JCD:amh

Secretary, Veterans Affairs

NATIONAL OFFICERS

[illegible]

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[illegible]
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Mbara N Y — Milton [illegible]
Los Angeles Calif — Thomas [illegible]
Robert W [illegible]
Loren Miller
Louisville Ky — Charles W [illegible]
Madison Wis — Lloyd Gaines
Memphis Tenn — Z Alexander Looby

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE
ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
20 WEST 40TH STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

July 28, 194[illegible]

Dear

This acknowledges receipt of your letter and all the information in your file. From the information you have in the file I have been unable to ascertain anything that we could do in your behalf at present.

Please let me know what the status of your claim is and what we can do in your behalf.

Sincerely yours,

[signature]

Secretary, [illegible]

[illegible]:amh

Army of the United States

Honorable Discharge

This is to certify that

(b)(7)(C) [redacted]

Army of the United States

is hereby Honorably Discharged from the military service of the United States of America.

This certificate is awarded as a testimonial of Honest and Faithful Service to this country.

Given at SEPARATION CENTER, FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND.

Date 27 NOVEMBER 1945.

3/12/82 SP-8BT

HENRY M SMICK
LT COL CMP

4-750 (2-7-79)

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J. EDGAR HOOVER
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12 J. HOWARD · MC GRATH
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY GENERAL
9 MACK — CAPITOL AVENUE OFFICE
9 UNITED STATES ATTORNEY — ADRIAN MAHER
HARTFORD, CONN.
9 HELEN T. HAYES — CAPITOL AVENUE OFFICE
9 JOHN J. EGAN — CONN. · LABOR COMMISSIONER
9 HOWARD E. HAUSMAN — SECURITY DIVISION
9 ARTHUR A. NIELSEN — VETERANS AGENT
HARTFORD, CONN.
9 HAROLD HILLS — CAPITOL AVENUE OFFICE
4 12 HARTFORD TIMES NEWSPAPER

WASHINGTON BUREAU NAACP
SECETARY VETERANS AFFAIRS

REQUEST EXPLANATION WHY VETERANS RECORDS DELIBERATELY FALSIFIED AT HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT OCTOBER 3, 1946, AND AFFIRMED BY VETERANS ADMINISTRATION NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON, D.C. IN APRIL 1947.

PLEASE DO NOT OFFER VETERANS BENEFITS IN ANY WAY SHAPE FORM OR FASHION, CONNECTED WITH MATTER MENTIONED.

(b)(7)(c) [redacted]

12 COPIES FORWARDED TO ADMINISTRATOR OF VETERANS AFFAIRS WASHINGTON, D.C.

END

REQUEST BILL FROM PRESIDENT
UNITED STATES AMERICA FOR ALL
MONEY CONNECTED WITH MILITARY
SERVICE UNITED STATES AMERICA
PAID, RECEIVED, DUE OR COMING DUE,
FROM ARMY ENTRY TO DISCHARGE,
MUSTERING OUT, TERMINAL LEAVE,
ALLOWANCES, INSURANCE REFUND.

MONEY WILL BE RETURNED TO
UNITED STATES TREASURY WITH ANY
FUTURE FEDERAL OR STATE BONUS
OR VETERANS BENEFITS IN ANY
WAY SHAPE FORM OR FASHION,
IGNORED FOREVER,

DIRECT REPLY HERE IF
ANY REPLY FORTHCOMING

SECETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON BUREAU NAACP
100 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE N.W.
WASHINGTON ! D.C.

INFORMATION AND FILE HERE

JESSE O. DEDMON, JR.
WASHINGTON BUREAU NAACP
100 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, 1, D.C.

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ARTHUR A. NIELSEN
WEST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

DUPLICATE FILES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST
THROUGH UNITED STATES MARSHAL'S OFFICE.
WASHINGTON, D.C. ← NOT PLACED

RECEIPT

UNITED STATES MILITARY MONEY MENTIONED WILL BE PAID INTO UNITED STATES TREASURY THROUGH HARTFORD, TIMES.

REQUEST FOR COOPERATION FROM HARTFORD TIMES HEREBY SUBMITTED

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[redacted]
(b)(7)(C)

ARMY DISCHARGE RETURNED TO PERMANANT CUSTODY OF PRESIDENT UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

(b)(7)(c) [redacted]

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4-750 (2-7-79)

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STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: August [redacted] 1950

FROM : SAC, BOSTON

SUBJECT: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
SECURITY MATTER - C

Due to stenographic congestion in this office, it has not been possible to forward a report on the above-captioned organization.

Every effort will be made to forward a report to the Bureau in the near future.

[redacted] (b)(7)(C)
ICC-1424

Air Mail

RECORDED - 14 100-3176-561
AUG 18 1950
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EX-16

FILE

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FBI/DOJ

61-3176-56

RECORDED - 7

The Commissioner
Immigration & Naturalization Service

October 3, 1950

Director, FBI

[redacted]

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE
ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE (NAACP)
Your Reference 56232/442 Inv.

Reference is made to the memorandum of July 21, 1950 from Mr. A. R. Mackey, Acting Commissioner, Immigration & Naturalization Service, concerning the captioned organization.

The NAACP has been in existence for over forty years and claims a membership of a quarter of a million Negro and white Americans in forty-five states and the District of Columbia. The organization has been subjected to attempts by Communists to infiltrate and influence the organization but such attempts have generally been unsuccessful. However, in some instances local branches have been influenced by persistent Communist pressure.

The NAACP at its forty-first national convention held in Boston, Massachusetts, June 20--25, 1950, with the overwhelming support of the delegates in attendance, passed the following resolution setting forth the organization's stand concerning Communism:

"Whereas, certain branches of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People are being rocked by internal conflicts between groups who follow the Communist line and those who do not, which threaten to destroy the confidence of the public in the Association and which will inevitably result in its eventual disruption; and

"Whereas, it is apparent from numerous attacks by Communists in their official organs 'The Daily Worker' and 'Political Affairs' upon officials of the Association that there is a well-organized, nation-wide conspiracy by Communists either to capture or split and wreck the NAACP; therefore be it

"Resolved, that this Forty-First Convention of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People go on record as unequivocally condemning attacks by Communists and their fellow-travelers upon the Association and its officials, and in order to safeguard the good-name of the Association, promote and develop

Tolson
Ladd
Clegg
Glavin
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Harbo
Belmont
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

(b)(7)(c)

OCT 4 1950

OCT 12 1950

DECLASSIFIED BY [redacted]
6/21/82

"unity, eliminate internal ideological friction, increase the membership and build the necessary power effectively to wage the fight for civil rights, hereby call upon, direct and instruct the National Board of Directors to appoint a committee to investigate and study the ideological composition and trends of the membership and leadership of the local branches with a view to determining causes of the aforementioned conflicts, confusion and loss of membership, be it further

"Resolved, that this Convention go on record as directing and instructing the Board of Directors to take the necessary action to eradicate such infiltration, and if necessary to suspend and reorganize, or lift the charter and expel any branch, which, in the judgment of the Board of Directors, upon a basis of the findings of the aforementioned investigation and study of local branches comes under Communist or other political control and domination."

61-7171-513

In the absence of any indication that the organization on a national level is subversive, no investigation of the NAACP will be instituted by this Bureau. If your service possesses any information indicating that a particular branch of the NAACP might be subversive an appropriate inquiry to determine such fact will be made upon receipt of such data.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FORM No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT BOSTON

BS FILE NO. 100- FT

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
BOSTON	9/14/50	6/19;7/11;8/2;9/11,12/50	[redacted] (b)(7)(C)

TITLE
COMMUNIST INFILTRATION INTO THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE - BOSTON DIVISION

CHARACTER OF CASE
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

During the past year, efforts of the CP, USA, District No. 1 and CP front groups have had limited success in attempt to infiltrate the NAACP locally. Information concerning Party interest in and extent of infiltration latter organization set out. (b)(1) [redacted] (b)(7)(C) [redacted] William Hamilton, reported to be a member of Mass. State Board of CP during year of 1949, also active in NAACP affairs locally. [redacted] (b)(7)(D) [redacted]

- C -

10-9-50 ec Dr Cont up

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

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Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
Date of Review 3/15/92 3/15/92

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5 Bureau 3 Boston	3 CONFIDENTIAL	
61 Dec 13 1950		

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

		Page
I	STATEMENT CONCERNING PURPOSES OF NAACP	[redacted]
II	INFORMATION CONCERNING EXTENT OF INFILTRATION INTO AFFAIRS OF NAACP LOCALLY BY CP AND CP FRONT GROUPS	[redacted]
	A Information Concerning Mrs. Florence Letueur, Boston, Massachusetts, Branch, NAACP	2-3
	B Local NAACP Officers with CP Affiliations	3-4
	C Activity of CP Leaders	4-7
	D Labor Youth League Activity	7-8
	E Young Progressives of Massachusetts Activity	8
	F Miscellaneous	8-9
III	[redacted]	9-13
	[redacted]	9-10
	[redacted]	10-11
	[redacted]	11-13
	D Miscellaneous	13

(b)(7)(D)

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BS 100-1424

STATEMENT CONCERNING PURPOSES OF NAACP

[redacted]

(b)(2)
(b)(7)(D)

[redacted]

II INFORMATION CONCERNING EXTENT OF INFILTRATION INTO AFFAIRS OF NAACP LOCALLY BY CP AND CP FRONT GROUPS

A INFORMATION CONCERNING MRS. FLORENCE LESUEUR, PRESIDENT, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, BRANCH OF NAACP

The December 17, 1949 issue of the Boston Chronicle, a negro newspaper published at Boston, Massachusetts, carried a news item which reflected that FLORENCE LESUEUR was, on December 12, 1949, reelected President of the NAACP, Boston Branch, at a meeting held at the Union Methodist Church, located at the corner of Columbus Avenue and West Newton Street, Boston.

[redacted] (b)(6)

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(b)(1)

[redacted]

(b)(2)
(b)(7)(C)

[redacted]

The Boston Herald, newspaper published at Boston, carried a news item in the issue of March 7, 1949 which was captioned "Anti-Lynch Group Bars Red From Distributing Circulars". Upon review of this news item, it is noted that the Boston Branch of the NAACP held an "anti-lynch law meeting" at the Everett School, located on Northampton Street, Boston, on March 6, 1949. There was present at this meeting OTIS ARCHER HOOD, Chairman of the Communist Party, who was making a distribution of circulars to men and women present at this meeting. According to the news item, MRS. FLORENCE LESUEUR objected to HOOD'S presence at this meeting, and she engaged the assistance of the Police in effecting his removal. The news item further indicated that MRS. LESUEUR voiced objection to the repeated attempts of the Communist Party to infiltrate her organization (NAACP) and she desired HOOD'S removal from this meeting inasmuch as she did not want it to appear that the Communist Party was in any way associated with the meeti

B LOCAL NAACP OFFICERS WITH CP AFFILIATIONS

(b)(2)
(b)(7)(D)

[redacted]

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100-1424

[redacted]

(b)(2),
(b)(7)(D),
(b)(7)(E)

[redacted]

(b)(7)(C)

Special Agent [redacted] previously obtained a copy of the 1944-45 catalog for the Samuel Adams School for Social Studies, which was formerly located on Province Street, Boston, Massachusetts. A review of this catalog reveals that FLORENCE LUSCOMB was listed as a member of the faculty of this school. The Samuel Adams School for Social Studies, which no longer functions at Boston, has been declared an adjunct of the Communist Party by the Attorney General, and therefore comes within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

C ACTIVITY OF CP LEADERS

There is being set forth information which reflects the extent of interest by local Communist Party leaders in the affairs of the NAACP.

WILLIAM HARRISON

[redacted] (b)(6)(C)

Editor, Boston Chronicle (negro newspaper)
Boston, Massachusetts

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BS 100-1424

WILLIAM HARRISON is a member of the State Board of the Communist Party of Massachusetts.

(b)(2),(b)(7)(D)

On December 7, 1949 [redacted] an informant of known reliability, made available to Special Agent [redacted] and the reporting Agent, copies of a transcript of a radio speech which was made by WILLIAM HARRISON over radio station WSAR at Fall River, Massachusetts on July 24, 1949. [redacted]

(b)(7)(C)

(b)(7)(D)

Upon review of this copy of the radio script for this particular broadcast, it was noted that HARRISON was introduced to the listening audience as a "member of the State Committee of the Communist Party of Massachusetts".

WILLIAM HARRISON is employed as Editor of the Boston Chronicle, a newspaper which has business offices located at 794 Tremont Street, Boston, Massachusetts. This newspaper is distributed among the negro people in the vicinity of Boston.

It is noted that the Boston Chronicle, issue of December 17, 1949, carried a news item which reported the results of the annual election of the Boston Branch of the NAACP, held at Boston, Massachusetts on December 12, 1949. This news item further indicates that one LINCOLN HINDS, a member of the local branch of the NAACP, who was present at this election meeting, arose at one point during this meeting and accused WILLIAM HARRISON of being a Communist. It was noted, upon further review of the same news item, that there was no information set out therein indicating that HARRISON either affirmed or denied the allegation that he was a Communist.

The Boston Chronicle, issue of June 18, 1950, carried an editorial written by WILLIAM HARRISON. The subject of this editorial was the 41st Annual National Convention of the NAACP, which was to be held at Boston, Massachusetts during the period June 20 to June 25, 1950. In this editorial, WILLIAM HARRISON was critical of the local NAACP leadership. He was particularly critical of MRS. FLORENCE LESUEUR, President of the Boston Branch of the NAACP. HARRISON criticized MRS. FLORENCE LESUEUR for requesting the Boston Police to arrest OTIS ARCHER HOOD, Chairman of the Communist Party of Massachusetts, while the latter was distributing "anti-lynch leaflets" in front of the Everett School, Northampton Street, Boston, on March 6, 1949.

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4-750 (2-7-79)

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[redacted]

(b)(1)

D LABOR YOUTH LEAGUE ACTIVITY

(b)(2)
(b)(7)(D)

[redacted] Executive Order 9835.

There is being set forth herein information reflecting interest exhibited in the NAACP by members of the Labor Youth League.

The Sunday Worker, issue of October 2, 1949, carried a news item which revealed that members of the NAACP branch at Fall River, Massachusetts were recently addressed by one PHIL AMBER, Labor Youth League Director for Southeastern New England. According to the news item, AMBER gave the Fall River members of the NAACP an account of what he termed "Fascist-led attacks" on the singer PAUL ROBESON while the latter was giving a concert at Peekskill, New York during September 1949. According to the news item, members of the Fall River Branch of the NAACP demanded prosecution of those individuals who engaged in violence at PAUL ROBESON'S concert at Peekskill, New York.

(b)(1)

[redacted]

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100-11424

(b)(1)

[redacted]

E YOUNG PROGRESSIVES OF MASSACHUSETTS ACTIVITY

(b)(2)
(b)(7)(C)

[redacted]

As was indicated previously in this report, MRS. FLORENCE LESUEUR, President of the Boston, Massachusetts, Branch of the NAACP, objected to the participation of representatives of the Young Progressives of America in a Crusade to Washington, D.C., which was being sponsored by the NAACP during the interim January 15 to January 17, 1949.

F MISCELLANEOUS

(b)(1)

[redacted]

(b)(2)
(b)(7)(C)

[redacted]

(b)(1)

[redacted]

CONFIDENTIAL

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100-1424

(b)(2)
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[redacted]

D MISCELLANEOUS

The Boston Herald, a newspaper published at Boston, Massachusetts, carried an item in the issue of June 24, 1950 which was captioned with the following headline, "Reds Told to Cease Attempts to Sabotage NAACP Program". This news item indicated that the delegates at the 41st Annual Convention of the NAACP, presently convened at the Union Methodist Church, Columbus Avenue and West Newton Street, Boston, voted 309 to 57 in favor of a special board to be appointed for the purpose of uprooting Communist infiltration. The news item further indicated that ROY WILKINS, Administrator of the NAACP, offered the following statement, "The decisive vote of almost six to one by which the delegates declared the opposition of this Association to Communism is formal recognition of the oft-demonstrated fact that liberal organizations, seeking reforms under the American system, cannot work effectively with Communists".

(b)(6),
(b)(7)(C)

[redacted]

(b)(1)

[redacted]

- CLOSED -

CONFIDENTIAL

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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61-3176-563 p. 14

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
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X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FBI/DOJ

SAC, Boston

9-8-50

DIRECTOR, FBI

43022

COMMUNIST INFILTRATION INTO THE
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE
ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
(Boston: 100-1424)

In response to Form 0-1 dated August 2, 1950, sent to your office inquiring as to the date when a report might be expected covering the national convention of the captioned organization held in Boston in June, 1950, you replied that a report would be submitted by August 18, 1950.

A review of the Bureau's files fails to reflect that such a report has been received.

You are instructed that a report be submitted so as to reach the Bureau not later than September 18, 1950.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/15/82 BY SP2 STP/mc

(b)(7)(c)

RECORDED - 39

61-3176-564

SEP 19 1950

34

Tolson
Ladd
Nease
Tracy
Mohr
Egan
Gurnea
Harbo
Belmont
Mason
Tele. Room
Holloman
Gandy

SEP 8 1950

FEDERAL BUREAU OF IN
U. S. DEPARTMENT O
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

SEP 21 1950

WESTERN UNION

Mr. Clegg
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Nease
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

WU 00[illegible] PD

AV NEW YORK NY SEP 21 1950 1202P

J EDGAR HOOVER

DEPT OF JUSTICE

WOULD LIKE TO SEE YOU FOR A FEW MINUTES ON MONDAY WHEN I SHALL

BE IN WASHINGTON. PLEASE ADVISE

WALTER WHITE 20 WEST 40 ST NYC

1221P

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/15/82 BY SP-4 BTP/mc

(b)(7)(C) 9-22-50

He will have to see someone else

61-3176-565

RECORDED - 28

SEP 28 1950

INDEXED - 28

RECORDED - 28

61-[redacted]176-565 43020

September 22, 1950 URGENT

Mr. Walter White
20 West 40th Street
New York, New York

YOUR TELEGRAM OF SEPTEMBER TWENTY-ONE RECEIVED. WHILE I WILL [redacted]
[redacted] IN MY OFFICE ON SEPTEMBER TWENTY-FIFTH, IT WILL BE A PLEASURE TO
[redacted] I WILL BE GLAD TO ARRANGE IT IF YOU DESIRE.

SINCERELY,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
[redacted] 3/5/82 BY SP-2 [redacted]

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

CC: [redacted] with copy of incoming. (b)(7)(C)

NOTE: White is Executive Secretary of NAACP.

[redacted] (b)(7)(C)

REC

SEP 22 2 57 PM '50
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

WESTERN UNION

SEP 22 1950

FBI
RECEIVED RECORDING ROOM
U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE

SEP 22 2 43 PM '50

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

SEP 22 1950

WESTERN UNION

43021

31 17 ST. GOVT PD 9-22-50 534 P

MR. WALTER WHITE

20 WEST 40TH STREET

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

YOUR TELEGRAM OF SEPTEMBER TWENTY-ONE RECEIVED. WHILE I WILL NOT BE IN MY OFFICE SEPTEMBER TWENTY-FIFTH, IT WILL BE A PLEASURE TO HAVE YOU CALL AND SEE AN ASSISTANT IF YOU DESIRE.

SINCERELY,

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER

DIRECTOR

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

[redacted] INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED [redacted] Date 8/15/78 BY [redacted]

4

4-22

[redacted] (b)(7)(c)

Address: _____

Birthdate: _____ SUPV: _____

Misc: _____

RS 1-1-1 Date 11-1 Searcher Initial JL

	FILE NUMBER	SERIALS
	67-395396	4
NI	100-113179-1	
NI	100-3-36-419	
NI	100-3-4137-3	
NI	100-31337-30	
I	100-16-22-13	
NI	67-47484-7	(b)(7)(c)
[redacted]		
NI	1-1-25276	4

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

CONFIDENTIAL

This Case Originated At NEW YORK File No. 100-8261

Report Made At	Date	Period	Report Made By
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	9/29/50	7/20,24,25,26;8/22,24,28;9/1,5/50	[redacted] JR:pjf

Title	Character of Case
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE - CHICAGO CHAPTER	INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

(b)(1)

[redacted]

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP ON 11-16-79 EJW

- RUC -

DETAILS:

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Class. & Ext. By SP-8 BTJ/ahw 3
Reason-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
Date of Review 3/15/82 3/15/92

CLASS. & EXT. BY 8760 DPH/ahw 3
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 8-8-79

The initials, NAACP, used throughout this report will refer to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Chicago Chapter. u

Address of Chicago Chapter of the NAACP

The June, 1950, issue of the Illinois Bell Telephone Directory reflects that the Chicago Chapter of the NAACP is located at 3456 South State Street, Chicago. u

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE (b)(2) (b)(7)(D)

Officers and Board of Directors of the Chicago Chapter of the NAACP

[redacted] of known reliability,] X u

Approved and Forwarded: SAC	Do Not Write in These Spaces	
J.K. McSwain WRH	61-8176-5166	RECORDED - 71
Copies of This Report: 6-Bureau, 3-Chicago, 3-New York, 1-ONI, 1-G2, 1-OSI	OCT 2 1950 CONFIDENTIAL	INDEXED - 74

COPY IN FILE
OCT 26 1950

Chicago File 100-8261 CONFIDENTIAL

furnished a 1950 list of officers and members of the Board of Directors. They are as follows:

President - NELSON M. WILLIS
1st Vice President - THEODORE W. MC NEAL
2nd Vice President - Mrs. ANN BOWMAN
3rd Vice President - ALFRED O. SIMPSON
4th Vice President - M. T. BLANTON
Secretary - JEWEL STRATFORD ROGERS
Assistant Secretary - Mrs. EUNICE V. TILLMAN
Treasurer - ROBERT LACY

Board of Directors

EUGENE WASHINGTON
FLORENCE WALKER
SHIELD GRAY
OSCAR C. BROWN, JR.
SIDNEY WILLIAMS
HELEN BLOWN
JEAN MC CRAY
SOLOMON TISDALE
CLAUDE E. WHITTAKER, JR.
PAULYNN MC KISSACK
LOUISE GAINES DOGHERTY
Reverend ROBERT N. JOHNSON
BEATRICE H. STEELE
IRENE MC COY GAINES

Affiliations of Officers of the NAACP

(b)(2)
(b)(7)(D)
(b)(7)(C)

[redacted]

ALU
ALU

- 2 -
CONFIDENTIAL

Chicago File 100-8261

(b)(7)(c) [redacted]

It is to be noted that the Congress of American Women has been designated by the Attorney General as a Communist organization.u

The "Chicago Tribune" issue dated February 23, 1950, page 10, column 4, carried an article captioned "Negroes Hear IRENE GAINES Warn of Reds". This article reflects that IRENE GAINES on February 22, 1950, warned the Negroes to beware of Communistic blandishments in the next election. The article reflected that she will be slated by the regular Republican organization for the office of County Commissioner. Portions of this article are quoted as follows: "Uninterrupted rule by one party, whether it be in the deep South or in Soviet Russia, or in our own Federal Government, can result only in a destruction of the Democratic way of life", and Mrs. GAINES said, "Our people have felt the brunt of such one-party rule in the South and we see its results in Washington even now. As a minority people we have been sought after by the major parties and the Communists alike. It is time that we stopped worrying about what any party has to offer us and began thinking about what we have to offer our country."u

[redacted]c

(b)(1) [redacted]c

[redacted]

CONFIDENTIAL

[redacted]

(b)(1)

[redacted]

It is to be noted that the National Negro Congress has been designated by the Attorney General as a Communist organization.

[redacted]

(b)(1)

[redacted]

CONFIDENTIAL

4-750 (2-7-79)

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61-3176-566 p. 5, 6

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FBI/DOJ

(b)(1)

[redacted]

(b)(2)
(b)(7)(D)

[redacted]

It is to be noted that the Civil Rights Congress has been designated by the Attorney General as a Communist organization.

(b)(1)

[redacted]

(b)(1)

[redacted]

4-750 (2-7-79)

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61 3176-566 p. 8, 9

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FBI/DOJ